

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 01450 281332Z

40

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 L-03 NSC-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

CIEP-01 OMB-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 /056 W

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R 281315Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2812

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY RABAT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TRIPOLI 1450

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR SP

SUBJECT: SPANISH-LIBYAN RELATIONS

1. FORMER SPANISH AMBASSADOR TO LIBYA AND NOW MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE CARLOS ROBLES RETURNED TO LIBYA TO MAKE HIS FAREWELLS DECEMBER 27, AND HIS RECEPTION BY THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATED THE IMPORTANCE QADHAFI ATTACHES TO RELATIONS WITH SPAIN. ROBLES MET WITH QADHAFI BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE AND HIS FAREWELL RECEPTION WAS THE BEST-ATTENDED EVENT OF ITS KIND BY OFFICIAL LIBYANS WE HAVE SEEN.

2. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ARE SO OUTWARDLY CORDIAL IN PART BECAUSE QADHAFI LIKES TO HOLD SPAIN'S PRO-ARAB POLICIES UP TO OTHER WEST EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS AS AN EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW. THE ATMOSPHERE OF CORDIALITY IS EASY TO MAINTAIN BECAUSE THERE IS LITTLE SUBSTANCE TO SPANISH-LIBYAN RELATIONS, AND THUS FEW OCCASIONS FOR FRICTION, PARTICULARLY WITH THE SAHARAN PROBLEM OUT OF THE WAY. QADHAFI IS OBVIOUSLY SATISFIED WITH SPAIN'S RAPID EVACUATION OF THE SAHARA, AND MAY FEEL HE PLAYED A ROLE IN BRINGING

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IT ABOUT.

CARLE

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Message Attributes

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